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Form 10-300 (Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

3

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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B=2155	4
STATE:	
Maryland	
COUNTY:	THE
Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	

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1.	NAME							
	St. Alphonsu	ıs' Church, R	ectory	Conven	t and Halle			
	AND/OR HISTORIC:		.00001	CONVEN	- und marre			
	St. Alphonsu	s' Church						
2.	LOCATION		73			Z		
	STREET AND NUMBER:			(No.	114 Rectory)	(No. 112		
	116 West Sar	atoga Street	(Churc	h) Con	vent) (No.12	5-127 Hal		
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	Baltimore			Third	as of January	1973		
	STATE		CODE	COUNTY:	× 2000	CODE		
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3.	CLASSIFICATION					No Mari		
	CATEGORY (Check One)	OWI	NERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC		
	☐ District ☐ Building	☐ Public Pu	blic Acquisiti	ion:	Occupied	Yes:		
	☐ Site ☐ Structure	□ Private	☐ In Prod		Unoccupied .	☐ Restricted		
	☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Being	Considered	Preservation work	☑ Unrestricted		
	10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 - 10 -	1	•		in progress	□ No		
	PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)							
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CONDITION	☐ Excellent	x Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
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	☐ Alte	red	V Unaltered	l.	Moved	Coriginal Site

St. Alphonsus' Church is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Park and Saratoga Streets in Baltimore.

St. Alphonsus' Church is a Gothic-Revival building that combines German and English Perpendicular Gothic details. St. Alphonsus' is basically a large rectangular space with aisles and nave of the same height. The uniform height of the ceiling has a feeling similar to that of the box-like collegiate chapels in England, e.g. Kings College Chapel, Cambridge. At the same time the open interior space resembles a "hall-church" familiar to the Redemptorists, who commissioned the Church in the Gothic architecture of their The star-shaped vaults, although made of native Germany. plaster, and the Perpendicular-style windows and tracery The effect produced by the came from English sources. duration is reminiscent of the interiors in the British House of Parliament by Charles Barry and Augustus Puzin. The walls and ceilings are stenciled with a strong gold The clustered iron columns are marbleized. accent.

German Catholic examples provided the precedent for the apse containing the altar flanked on each side by an apsidal space containing a side altar. On the exterior, the central tower located over the center door on the south facade has an appearance similar to towers found in many German towns.

The floor plan--notably the vestibule which runs the entire length of the southern end of the church -- is a characteristic of the architect, Robert Cary Long, Jr. The crenelation, the stripped buttresses, the seven bay, east and west, facades, and the box-like shape -- these elements of St. Alphonsus' appear in Long's Franklin Street Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, a National Register of Historic Places property. Unlike the Franklin Street church, Long intended St. Alphonsus' Church to be painted a warm buff color. In 1968, in a burst of "Colonial" enthusiasm, the church had the paint blasted off. Long did not object to bare brick walls, rather he felt that the quality of brick available to him at the time was not adequate to remain bare.

In the nineteenth century the Redemptorists showed an appreciation for the architecture of Long's church and used similar designs for other church buildings on the same block. The three satellite buildings -- the Rectory, the Convent and the Halle--blend architecturally with St. Alphonsus' Church making a unified urban composition.

(see continuation sheet)

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ERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian!	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	19th Century	
PECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1842	(Church) 187	3 (Halle)
REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropr	iate)	
Abor iginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
- Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	Urban history
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	☐ Landscape	☐ Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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☐ Conservation	[] Music	☐ Transportation	

St. Alphonsus' Church is an outstanding example of American Early Gothic Revival. Constructed between 1842 and 1844 it is one of the first Gothic buildings based on a careful study of medieval models which is most frequently characterized in the Anglo-American ecclesiological movement. B. Stanton, in The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture An Episode in Taste, (Baltimore: 1968, 225-238) has given the best assessment of the architectural significance.

Mrs. Stanton's book places the Baltimore architect, Robert Cary Long, Jr., in the same rank with Frank Wills, John Notman and John W. Priest. St. Alphonsus' was Long's first major commission. In it's design especially the interior, he benefited from his exposure to English Gothic Revival architects, notably A. W. Pugin. Long had travelled in Europe and had studied with Martin Euclid Thompson in New York and with his father in Baltimore. Though his brief career was terminated by his early death in 1849, Long made an important contribution to American Architectural Theory, notably in a series of articles for The Literary World (1848-1849) and for The United States Catholic Magazine (1843).

St. Alphonsus' Church, the institution, has played an important role in the history of Baltimore. The Redemptionist Fathers, a German order of Roman Catholic priests, raised the money to hire Long and erect the church. The Redemptionists had come to Baltimore to minister to the rising number of German immigrants. They erected a school at the same time as the church and provided education before the public school system had reached all children. The school burned and was replaced by St. Alphonsus' Halle (1873) which is still in use. In 1858 the Redemptionists began the St. Alphonsus' Orphan Asylum for German orphans. Two years later the Alphonsus Hall Building Association, which loaned mortgage money, became an incorporated lending institution in Baltimore City.

The Redemptionists have severed their ties with Baltimore City.

(see continuation sheet)

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9	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES					J			
,	Baltimore City Land Recor	rds.	ŀ	all of	f Rec	ords,	Annapo	olis,	
	Laws of Maryland 1841. Chapter 26.								
	. 1860. Chapter 151.								
2000	Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day:								
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	Maryland Historical Trust						Dec.	12,	1972
	STREET AND NUMBER:								
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112	STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION	B 100 120	+				R VERIFIC	CATION	
	As the designated State Liaison Officer for the tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Publi 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inc in the National Register and certify that it has			ertify th	at this pr	operty is in			
	forth by the National Park Service. The recom- level of significance of this nomination is: National State Local	mended		Director, O	ffice of A	Archeology	and Historic	Preserv	ation
	Name Olando Ridouti Orlando Ridout, IV		Date	-		-			
	Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u> Maryland	for			Keeper	of The N	ational Reg	ister	2
	Date December 13, 1972		L	Date					0 931-894
								GP	- 231.034

TATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore City

B-4381

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

ENTRY NUMBER

(Continuation Sheet)

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

(Number all entries)

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The state of the s

St. Alphonsus' Church

#6 - Representation in Existing Surveys (continued)

Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks 1972 State Maryland Historical Trust

2525 Riva Road

Annapolis

Maryland

24

#7 - Description - Continued

St. Alphonsus' Halle, at 125-127 Saratoga Street, is a four-and-a-half-story brick structure with a central pavilion topped by a gable. A lancet shaped brick arch frames the central door. The second and third-story windows on the pavilion are lancet shaped. The dormers of the Halle are English Gothic.

The Convent at 112 W. Saratoga Street is three stories high, set on a high basement. The structure has both common and Flemish bond on its principal (south) facade. There is a molded brick cornice. The windows have flat or jack arches and marble sills.

The Rectory at 114 W. Saratoga Street, between the Convent on the east and the Church on the west is a symmetrical, five-bay, four-story structure. Built of brick, there is a belt course between the third and fourth stories.

#8 - Significance - Continued

However, the independent congregation that owns the church is an active inner-city institution ministering to the needy, irrespective of any German extraction. They maintain the Halle, a rectory and a convent.

St. Alphonsus' Church and its satellite buildings on Saratoga Street, the Halle (No. 125-127), the rectory (No. 114) and the Convent (No. 112) define the urban street scape with an important unified architectural statement.

1 of 2 continuation sheets

Form 10-300a (Dec. 1968)

STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Baltimore C	City
FOR NPS USE	DNLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

St. Alphonsus' Church

#9 - Major Bibliographical References (continued)

Stanton, Phoebe B. Notes on St. Alphonsus' Church and on Robert Cary Long, Jr. The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland.

The Gothic Revival and American Church Architecture An Episode in Taste 1840-1856. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1968.

(continuation sheet number 2)

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

TATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE OF	NLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

B-4381

I. NAME			
COMMON: St. Alphonsus' Chi	urch, Rect	ory, Convent and Hal	le
AND/OR HISTORIC: St. Alphonsus			
2. LOCATION			
street and number: 116 West Saratoga Stree	t (Church)	(No. 114 Rectory), Convent), (No.125-1	(No. 112 27 Halle)
Baltimore			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maryland	24	Baltimore City	510
3. MAP REFERENCE			dright and the state of
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Photo revised 19	966		
4. REQUIREMENTS			Balandar, in 194.
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510

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

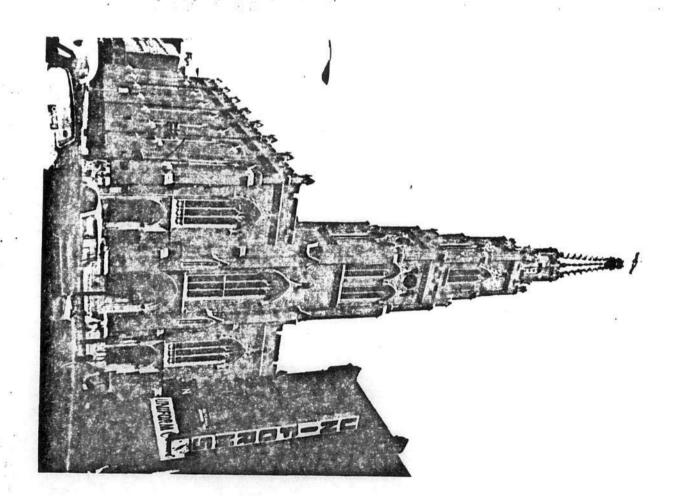
NATION REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

Maryland	
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Baltimore City	
FOR NPS USE ON	ILY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph) 1. NAME St. Alphonsus' Church, Rectory, Convent and Halle COMMON: St. Alphonsus' Church AND/OR HISTORIC: 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: (No. 114 Rectory) (No. 112 Convent) (No. 125-127 Halle) U 116 West Saratoga Street (Church), CITY OR TOWN: 04 Baltimore STATE: COUNTY: CODE Maryland 24 Baltimore City 3. PHOTO REFERENCE Z William Morgan PHOTO CREDIT: June 1971 DATE OF PHOTO: ш SEGATIVE FILED AT: Maryland Historical Trust, 2525 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 ш 4. IDENTIFICATION DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

St. Alphonsus 'Church - southwest facade



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATION.

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

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EGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Maryland

Baltimore City

	FOR	NPS	USE	ONLY
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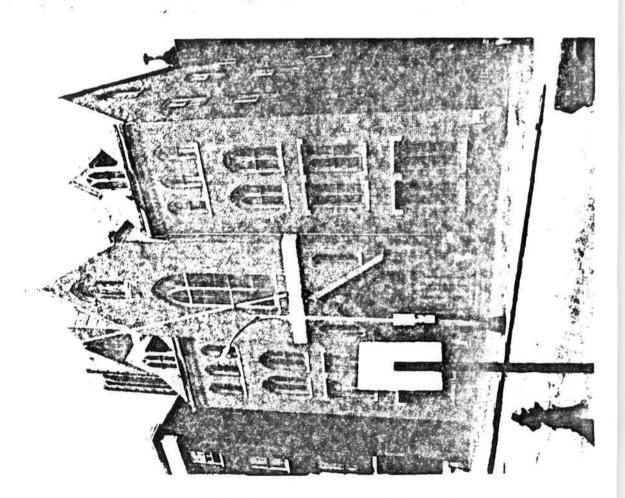
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PROP	ERTY	PHOTOGRAPH FORM	

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME Alphonsus' Church, Rectory, Convent and Halle COMMON: St. St. Alphonsus' Church AND/OR HISTORIC: 2. LOCATION (No. 114 Rectory) (No. 112 Convent) (No. 125-127 Halle) STREET AND NUMBER: 116 West Saratoga Street (Church), CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore City STATE: COUNTY: CODE CODE Maryland Baltimore City 510 24 PHOTO REFERENCE William Morgan PHOTO CREDIT: June 1971 DATE OF PHOTO: Maryland Historical Trust, 2525 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 4. IDENTIFICATION

St. Alphonsus' Halle - north facade



Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. B-4381
(See also B-22)

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7. Description

Survey No. B-4381

Condition === excellent	deteriorated	Check one	Check one	ite	×
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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count: 1

This 1873 four-story brick church school faces north on W. Saratoga Street. The Victorian interpretation of the Gothic style is in keeping with the brick picturesque Gothic church of St. Alphonsus across the street. The freestanding school building has narrow alley inlets on either side. The street frontage is 66' and the depth is 183'.

The facade is evocative of a Gothic church, yet the fenestration indicates that this is a multi-storied, institutional building. The facade is divided into three large bays, composed of a projecting central portico that rises five stories flanked by slightly set-back wings of four stories with a steeply gabled roof.

The front doors of the central portico are set into a projecting two-story brick surround with a corbelled Gothic arch. Stone coping accents the point of the arch. The double doors have a Gothic arch transom with flame tracery. Slit windows flank the transom at the second story. A lancet window runs the height of the third and fourth stories. A recessed niche in the fifth story contains a statue of St. Alphonsus. The roof of the projecting portico is a gable end facing the street. The gable is outlined in stone coping. A gold cross rises from the peak.

The flanking first and third bays are identical to each other. Each bay contains on the first story two sash windows with stone bracketed sills and bracketed lintels. The lintels abut each other to form a continuous line across the windows. Each sash is composed of two lancet windows set within rectangular frames. The second-story windows are identical to the first, but shorter. The third story contains two sash lancet windows. Unlike the lower stories, the frames are not squared off at the top, but are pointed with Gothic brick arches. The fourth story has three lancet sash windows with pointed brick arches and a continuous stone sill.

The cornice consists of molded brick and corbelled brick modillions. The steeply pitched gable roof runs parallel to the street. The slate-shingled roof has a dormer window in each bay. The windows of the dormers are similar to the third story: two lancet sash windows set into a pointed arch wood frame.

The east and west walls are partially visible from the alleys and back of the school play ground. Iron gates separate the inlets from the sidewalk. Each wall juts out for two bays, then is recessed back for several bays, then juts back out to form a small cross-wing, then is recessed for several more bays. The first story of the east wall contains a door in the second bay. A brick string course runs between the first and second stories. The windows have brick rounded arch lintels.

B-4381 125 West Saratoga Street St. Alphonsus Halle School Baltimore MD Section 7 Description 7.1

The back (south) wall is four bays wide and built upon a raised basement. The back door is on the west side, it is reached by a flight of steps through a recessed opening. The windows are 12/12 sash. The back of the building contains a concrete playground that is walled off from the rest of the public.

The interior originally consisted of a convent on the first story, an auditorium on the second, class rooms on the third, and additional rooms for classes or boarders on the fourth. The first

story has now been converted to classroom use.

The impressive double doors on the facade open into a stair hall with a divided stair twisting up to the second and third stories. The stair hall does not communicate with the first story or the fourth. Access to the first story is through the door in the east wall. The first story is composed of a series of connecting rooms with wainscotting and pressed tin ceilings. In many cases the only way to reach a room is to travel through another room. There is one corridor that divides the plan east to west. One of the rooms of this corridor has its walls finished with wainscot below and embossed pressed tin above, in addition to the pressed tin ceiling. This was allegedly the music conservatory. A back stair case leads to the upper stories.

The second floor contains two rooms along the south wall and a large auditorium/gymnasium. The gymnasium floor has inlaid designs. A raised stage runs across the south end; the north end is accessed by the front processional stairway. One of the two

back rooms is outfitted as a kitchen.

The third floor contains the class rooms. The processional stairway opens onto a long narrow wood-panelled corridor with classrooms opening off it. Tall windows in the walls overlook the classrooms. The first room to the east was allegedly once the library; it still contains glass-front bookshelves. The classrooms have wood wainscotting and black boards all around. A back stair rises to the fourth floor. The wood trim is grained, including the back side of the door to the attic.

The fourth floor has both original and later partition walls. The angled walls accommodate the slope of the roof. There is a claw foot tub in one of the rooms.

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Survey No.

B-4381

8. Significance

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This building is an outstanding example of an 1875 school building. It is also significant for its associations as a private school and convent associated with the church of St. Alphonsus Halle (the patron saint of arthritis!) across the street. The school was an important part of the Catholic Ukrainian community, many who came from outside the city to mass or sent there children to school here. The school is a significant contributing institution to the residential nature of the nineteenth-century neighborhood as well. The school burned in the 1875 Clay Street fire and was immediately rebuilt in the collegiate Gothic style.

The school is also significant for its preservation of architectural details. The pressed tin ceilings, wainscotting, and pressed tin wallcovering in the music room, inlaid auditorium floor, and panelled school rooms are all part of the original finish. Very little alterations have been made to either the finish or the plan of the building and it is thus instructive as to the setting for educational and school-related activities.

The plan is instructive about the multiple functions held at the school. The impressive front door does not open into the first floor which the nuns occupied, but rather opened into a fairly tight double staircase that lead directly to the second floor where the auditorium was. Thus for community meetings, the public could enter without disturbing the sanctity of the convent. The staircase continues up to the third-floor classrooms. The public school entrance was on the alley side to the east. The children would enter the side of the building and be directed up a backstairs and funnelled off to their respective school rooms that are laid off a double-loaded corridor that formed a T-plan in the rear. A secondary staircase in the back lead to the attic story, which was also finished with classrooms and perhaps dormitories. Thus the plan reveals the importance of controlling access to the various parts of the building.

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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DHCP/DHCD 100 COMMUNITY PLACE CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023 301-514-7600 B--4381 125 West Saratoga Street St. Alphonsus Halle School Baltimore, MD Section 8 Significance 8.1

The school is still used as a private school today, which helps account for the few changes to the building. The church members are reportedly loosing interest in supporting the school, however, since the children now tend to be non-parishioners and are children of parents who work in the downtown area. Thus the student body represents the changing nature of Baltimore's residential and commuting public.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:

Industrial-Urban Dominance, 1870-1930

Historic Period Themes: Architecture Economics

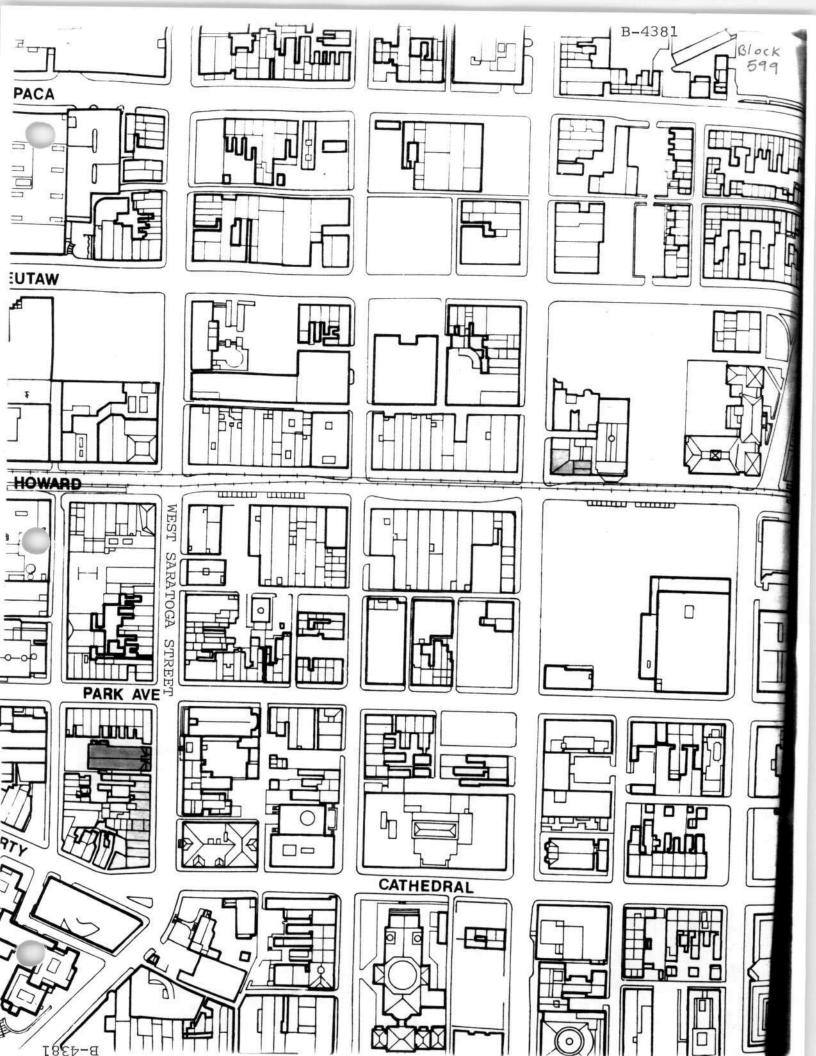
Resource Type:
Building

Historic Environment: Urban

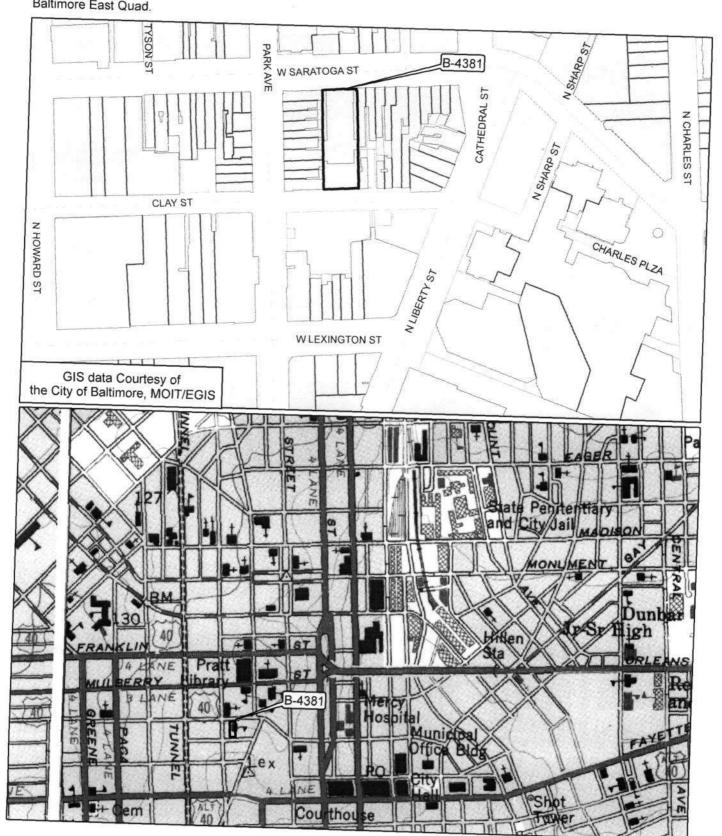
Historic Function and Use:

School

Known Design Source: None



B-4381 St. Alphonsus Halle School 125 W. Saratoga Street Block 0599, Lot 010 Baltimore City Baltimore East Quad.





B-438/
125 w. Saratoga St / St. alphonsus
Baltimore MD School

Diane Shaw

8/91

Manyland SHPO
Facade, NE elevation

1/1